

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY NOTES

Published Quarterly by the Department of Public Instruction, State Library and Museum, Library Extension Division

Entered as second-class matter, at the post-office at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, under Acts of August 24, 1912 and June 6, 1900

Vol. 12

HARRISBURG, PA. JANUARY, 1929

No. 1

State Library and Museum LIBRARY EXTENSION DIVISION

EDITORIAL BOARD

Frederic A. Godecharles, Litt.D., *Director*.
Anna A. MacDonald, *Extension Librarian and Editor*.
Evelyn L. Matthews, *Consulting Librarian*.

These NOTES are sent without charge to all libraries and library trustees. Please keep us informed of all changes so we may have our mailing list up to date.

CONTENTS

P. L. A. Report—Trustee's Section	2
An Appeal to Trustees and Librarians	3
The Library Trustee	4
Trustee: work and duties	6
Pennsylvania Library History:	
Fallsington Library	8
Institutional Libraries	10
District meetings, Report, 1928	10
District meetings, Schedule, 1929	11
1928—New Libraries	12
Gifts	12
Editorials	12
County and Extension Library Service	15
New Libraries Opened	16
New Library Movements	17
News and Gossip	17
Miscellaneous Notes	19

"Books are keys to wisdom's treasures;
Books are keys to lands of pleasure;
Books are paths that upward lead;
Books are friends. Come, let us read."

—EMILIE POULSSON

"Books tell us what man has done,
which is history;

Books tell us what man has learned,
which is science;

Books tell us what man has made,
which is art;

Books tell us what man has thought,
which is philosophy;

Books tell us what man has felt and
created and expressed, which is
literature."—*From the Florida Library Bulletin*.

An American Library in the Antarctic

"Byrd's problem is this: He has a small group of men engaged in highly scientific and technical activities. It is inconceivable that the mass mind of his small group could hold the knowledge and information that the party will need before the enterprise is complete. Only by use of an adequate library, not only scientific and technical, but social and spiritual, can Byrd and his men bring from the Antarctic the knowledge secreted behind its barriers of ice.

There is a lesson in this point. Life has become so complex and work so technical, even in the smallest business, that one's competence is taxed beyond the breaking point without the vicarious experience and scientific knowledge available in the library."

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES' SECTION

of the

Pennsylvania Library Association

The annual meeting of the Trustees' Section of the Pennsylvania Library Association was held in connection with the conference of the Association at Uniontown, October 18. Dr. George P. Ettinger, chairman, presided and briefly welcomed the members present and pled for a larger interest on the part of the Trustees. Much stimulation and interpretation of duties could be obtained by attending the meetings of the Section. He also called particular attention to *Pennsylvania Library Notes*, issued by the Library Extension Division of the State Library and Museum, urging the Trustees to read it regularly and keep informed of what the libraries of the State are doing. He stressed the point that a Trustee be selected, above all else, because he is fundamentally interested in the library and not merely a good citizen.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Reports of the Treasurer and of the Publicity Committee were presented by Dr. Ettinger in the absence of Mr. Pentz and Mr. Brazier. Records of membership for the year do not show any increase in number of libraries but a decrease. However, a number of individual trustees contributed and brought the total up to former years.

Miss Anna MacDonald, of the Library Extension Division of the State Library and Museum, in a brief and straightforward statement, put before the Trustees the present situation in the libraries throughout the State. She said that while Pennsylvania libraries have generally increased their service to the communities by twenty to fifty percent, the equipment, number of workers in the library and funds for library maintenance have not been increased. She urged that this condition be presented to the people who are using the libraries and assured the Trustees that the general public will respond,

as they will wish this service to continue.

Dr. W. N. Schwarze, President of the Moravian College at Bethlehem, told of the campaign for the Bethlehem Public Library four years ago, which proved that good publicity will win anything. He also gave a short talk on the manuscripts of the Moravians deposited in the Bethlehem Church and of the great demand there is for translation, some of which he has undertaken. The most interesting to students and research workers will be the *Zeisberger Journal*, containing invaluable material relating to this missionary's work among the Indians.

Mr. W. C. Pentz was unable to be present at the meeting but sent a paper entitled "The Library Trustee," in which he charged the trustee to keep up with the times, informing himself of all matters pertaining to the library and his responsibilities, never assuming he knows all there is to be known and insisting on his own viewpoint as always the correct one, but to keep an open mind on all things and not to forget to consult with the librarian before making decisions of importance.

The motive of the paper was the attitude of the Trustee toward the librarian. First of all, there must be time and expenses granted for attending the library meetings and making larger contacts in every way possible if the librarian is to sell the library to the community and bring into her library new ideas and spirit. It is to be remembered that a librarian is not to be expected to attend to all the detail work, which can be done by a clerk at much lower cost, if she is to spend a great part of her time outside getting in touch with the agencies which will make her a more efficient librarian and result in the upbuilding of the library.

Mr. Charles Carroll followed these discussions of a serious phase of the duties and responsibilities of a trustee, by reading a facetious poem, entitled *The Poor Trustee*, which had previously been read at the New York State meeting.

It relieved the tenseness of the hour and the session once more settled down to the remaining business of the Section.

Nominations for the election of officers for the coming year were called for. It was unanimously voted that the present officers be retained, and their pleas for release from their respective duties were unheeded.

The officers will be:

President—DR. GEORGE T. ETTINGER, Allentown.

Vice-President—MISS MARY TAGGERT, Northumberland.

Secretary—MISS NELL B. STEVENS, State Library and Museum, Harrisburg.

Treasurer—W. C. PENTZ, DuBois.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
NELL B. STEVENS,
Secretary.

AN APPEAL TO TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIANS

by

DEAN GEORGE T. ETTINGER,
PH.D., LITT.D.,

President Trustees' Section, Pennsylvania Library Association.

This is the great age of organization. When men have organized they go home and act as if the salvation of their cause were already at the back door. Mere resolutions amount to nothing if they are not carried out by energetic agents; mere laws under which our statute books are groaning are worse than nothing, unless an active authority behind those laws in the form of a strong and honest executive enforces them, and thus causes them to be respected and obeyed. This principle holds true whether your organization is a small Trustees' Section of the Pennsylvania Library Association, a large incorporated city, a sovereign state, or a World Power.

My appeal now is directed to the Trustees and the Librarians of institutions in Pennsylvania. Books, as we all

know, are the repositories of the knowledge, the wisdom and the accomplishments of all the ages. Books tell us what the world has thought and wrought in past time. Books are the records of the past, the teachers of the present, and the inspiration of the future. Thus, the library cause, at least in my humble judgment, becomes one of the most important interests in the community; for the culture, the happiness, the peace and the progress of the community very largely depend upon the intelligence and the morals of the citizens of the community. In the attainment of knowledge and the cultivation of morals, the Public Library is a factor of untold worth. Without boasting, we Trustees and Librarians are engaged in one of the most important and most useful forms of occupation to which men and women can devote their time. Library work counts for the individual and for the community. Those engaged in it must feel that they are contributing something of value to the community. The library spends money that it may induce the public to take something for nothing.

The library cause, therefore, ought to be preached year in, year out. Library propaganda, by which the public is kept informed of what is going on in the library world, is both legitimate and desirable. First of all, every Librarian and every Trustee should belong to the Pennsylvania Library Association, and every Trustee ought to belong to the Trustees' Section. You know, "In union there is strength." Increased funds would enable us to spread library news and help the cause in various ways. I have heard of some librarians who refused to join the Association because they claimed they got nothing for their money. This does not seem to me to be a very altruistic argument. Perhaps the money of those memberships could help others who need information, encouragement and even material help. So, let us not be afraid that we shall get nothing for our membership fee, but let us be happy to be

able to support the common cause. With the increased means, we could supply all the Librarians and Trustees with many of the excellent publications of the American Library Association and thus spread inspiration and knowledge of the cause throughout Pennsylvania. Above all things, let me urge my fellow-trustees to cease to take a perfunctory part in the management of their respective libraries, but to become active, living, enthusiastic advocates and supporters of the cause in their respective communities as well as in the Commonwealth at large.

THE LIBRARY TRUSTEE

by

W. C. PENTZ, *Trustee*, DuBois, Penna.

The word "trustee" has a very significant import. When one receives a trust, he has accepted something out of the ordinary. He agrees to administer the trust in such manner that it will redound to the benefit of the one who has trusted him. In fact he must "let his light so shine that others will see his good work and give the glory" to the cause of which he has been chosen trustee. Unless one has this ideal of trusteeship, he has no right to accept the position. His work must be unselfish and without thought of reward.

A trustee may not know much about his trust when he accepts it, but in this age the opportunity to acquire knowledge on any subject is so great that he need not long remain ignorant of his responsibilities and duty. Scarcely anything along the line of trusts is in existence which does not have magazines, papers and books outlining the work which he is expected to perform, and it is his duty to *inform* himself of these matters as early as possible.

This is particularly true of a library trustee. A library trustee has a very high office. He deals with the minds of the child, the youth, the adult and the mature, and he must furnish entertainment, education and amusement for all

these classes. He must realize that the true aim of this trusteeship is the making of life worth living, and the making of the world better through books, magazines, and publications of a high order. He must see that his institution is kept abreast of the times. He cannot be narrow and say that only the books and magazines which he thinks ought to be read should be in the library, but he must cater to the tastes and desires of the entire community in which he lives, using discretion in spending the small amount of money that library trustees have to spend and securing the very best for his patrons.

A trustee must be a person of rather peculiar make-up. In the first place he will find that he is not the *only* trustee of his library and he usually has four to five other persons with whom he must get along, and whose opinions he must respect. In the next place, he must recognize the fact that the other fellow has some opinions and he must also recognize that not all knowledge is tied up in his brain, but that he can learn from anyone. Even a man who is not able to read can teach the best educated something that he does not know. After the trustee has learned that he does not know anything, his mind will then be open to receive information of a constructive character and this can be obtained as heretofore indicated, and by consulting with the librarian.

The Librarian

This brings us to the question of the librarian. When I say librarian, I do not mean a dispenser of books and a keeper of accounts. This class of work can be done by a person of ordinary ability, and the word librarian is used in reference to a graduate of an accredited library school, and one who has spent several years in training for that purpose. Librarians do not just "grow" like Topsy, but belong to a professional class just as physicians, ministers, lawyers or any other person trained in a particular line.

I might say a great deal about what constitutes a good librarian, for our little library started with one and we have kept the pace since, and I think our library shows it.

A good librarian can go to a convention, whether it is state, national or district, or she can take a few days' visit to her home school and the place of her early training and come back with enough "pep" to drive a lot of "hick" trustees crazy, but a good trustee should grasp the situation and her enthusiasm. The trustees and the librarian will sit down and consult and work out plans for the improvement of their library that will be surprising.

To use a commercial expression, it is the duty of the librarian to sell the library to the community, and the librarian cannot do this unless she is given *carte blanche* to attend the various conventions, national, state and district, by her board where she may come in contact with the larger institutions, librarians and people of large minds. The librarian will be able to come back to her board with these matters. In passing, I might say that a good trustee ought to go along with the librarian and get some of the work too, but the trustee is frequently handicapped in not being able to get away. However, a librarian cannot grow and the library cannot grow unless the trustees see that she takes in all of these things. It is the duty of the board to pay her expenses and allow her time while in attendance at the conventions.

The librarian may be called upon to visit a community where there is no library, or may be called in conference in a newly started library, or may be called to conference by another librarian to assist. These matters are all for the increase of the library spirit and that work should be urged for the reason that she can, like the trustee, always learn something and get new ideas and new things that she can use in her library.

It is the duty of the trustees to be in frequent consultation with the librarian, for in the "multitude of council there is wisdom" and all knowledge is not confined to one individual, as has been before stated. In that way the trustees are always in touch with the librarian and know what is going on so that if any complaint comes in, they will know how to meet it, and the librarian is always in touch with the thought of the trustees, and the community problems that come up should be fully discussed among them and solved by them.

It is the duty of the library board to stand behind the librarian. Of course, the trustees are not familiar with literature and could not reasonably be so unless they were of a rather peculiar make-up. The selection of books, magazines and papers must be left very largely to the librarian. If the trustee keeps in touch with literature, and if he finds a book that he thinks would be of interest to his community, he can suggest it to the librarian and after discussion, if it is of importance, it can be placed on the shelf. The trustees should not attempt to order books, or purchase any literature without consultation with the librarian.

The trustees must also recognize that a librarian is one individual and she cannot do everything. The librarian is an executive officer and she must very largely determine the amount of help and character of help that is necessary. The ordinary trustee can keep track of the circulation and in that way he can determine how much help is needed.

It must be kept in mind that the circulation of the library is very largely detail work. It is poor economy to pay a librarian a salary that she is entitled to receive and then let her do the work that some clerk can do at much lower wages. While the librarian is following up little details,

she is not able to sell the library to the public. You might as well send a commercial traveler on the road and have him take orders, then come back into the store and pack the goods and carry them to the freight or express office, and check them out, then charge them on the books and then go out and collect the bills and expect a successful business, as to place your librarian in charge of your library and expect her to issue all the books and keep all the records.

The librarian must necessarily be a social person, i. e., she must get in touch with the literary end of the community in which she resides. She must also be in touch with the schools and everything that pertains to the literary question, and how can she do this if she does not have abundant help in the library? If a trustee thinks that is a part of the librarian's duty, then it is the duty of the trustee to go to the library and keep these books and attend to the details himself, and I know just how much he would swear if he had to do that.

There are courtesies that the trustees can extend to the librarian. At holiday time, the patrons of the library are engaged in holiday activities, and at such times the librarian can take a week off, or maybe ten days, and not hurt the library. She comes back rested with new vigor. Of course, in such instances, the librarian bears her own expense, but her time goes on. The librarian is entitled to her vacation and the trustees should see that she gets it. My own experience is that the librarian usually comes back with a very large amount of material that she has accumulated for the benefit of the library, that she did not have when she went away. The good librarian, of course, is like the good trustee, she is always thinking of her library and what is going to make it more efficient in the community, and it is these things that I have mentioned that go to

the uplift and upbuilding of the library. In other words, if a library has a good librarian and a board of trustees of ordinary sense, who do not think that when they die "all wisdom will go with them" a very successful library can be operated in a small town or a large city, in a very economical way, and be made a great success.

TRUSTEES: WORK AND DUTIES

(Primary duties of the office)

- a. Secure adequate library support.
- b. Keep accurate records and accounts.
- c. Establish liberal policies.
- d. Secure best possible library service.
- e. Give librarian cordial co-operation and support.

How the responsibility is to be met.

a. One must begin by caring enough for the library to be ready to make sacrifices in its behalf. Meetings of the board must be regarded as fixed engagements to which other claims for time must be adjusted. Almost nothing else will do more for the morale of a board than for each member to make it a point of honor to attend its regular meetings. Carelessness and irregularity in this matter are sure to be demoralizing. No one should think of accepting a place on the board who does not intend to observe this simple duty. Under the law of New York State library trustees forfeit their office if absent three times in succession without satisfactory excuse.

b. By careful study and understanding of the library's constitution, charter and relation to the laws of the State, and a due observance of the terms prescribed in the charter and the law.

c. By acquiring intimate knowledge of the resources, work, clientele and possibilities of the library committed to their charge. No one can properly direct an institution with which he

is not familiarly and intimately acquainted.

e. By knowing the standards that are accepted in the best library circles and the ideals that are held by the best libraries. For this, each library trustee must read some of the books representing the best ideas of our profession and the addresses presented at important library meetings. No man is fit to engage a librarian who does not know something of the standards by which a librarian is judged. No one is fit to discharge an incompetent librarian who does not know just what should be expected of a competent one.

f. By attending library meetings. It is a simple unquestioned fact today that there are almost no good and progressive librarians who do not attend the meetings of their fellow workers. It is almost as true that there are no thoroughly efficient and progressive library trustees who do not take advantage of such gatherings. Mrs. Earle of the Indiana Library Commission says, "Trustees who have not time or interest to attend local and state library meetings and thus keep in touch with the best library ideas and methods should resign."

g. By becoming regular members in the organizations which exist to promote the ideals and interests of the library profession.

In the eyes of the law, the board of trustees is the library. All responsibility for its success or failure is placed by the law on their shoulders.

It is a common thing in library circles to emphasize the importance of the librarian. This emphasis is rightly placed. In respect to public service, a library is conditioned more by the librarian than by its books and material facilities. The assertion that "a library is three-fourths librarian" is correct. But it rests with the trustees to decide as to the quality both of this "three fourths" and the other fourth, also.

The ultimate responsibility is legally and morally theirs.

Consider the part which the library may have on the moral, intellectual and material well-being of a community. To direct or influence the reading of a boy or girl or a community is to effect inevitably and powerfully the character and life of that boy or girl or community. By no other single influence is one more effectively inclined toward right or wrong, truth or error than by the influence which directs his reading; and the men or women who are in charge of that one public institution whose main function and duty is to direct and influence this reading, carry a moral and social responsibility which is hard to exaggerate. It has been said "it is a much more serious form of graft to employ an incompetent librarian to shape the young life of a community than to build a sidewalk without proper foundation." The latter offense may involve material loss or injury; the former, injury of a much deeper kind.

To some, this general responsibility for the well-being of the community may seem vague and forced. But there is at least a very simple and direct financial responsibility involved which should lead to the same serious regard for the office. Whether a library's funds are derived from endowment, gift or taxation, those funds represent a public trust committed to the library for certain specific ends. Every trustee is in some degree responsible for the best possible use for those funds. To apply that money for an inferior thing when a superior thing could have been secured; to spend it on worthless books or on incompetent service when valuable books and competent service could have been obtained—is that not to be guilty of a misuse of trust funds? Is not the trustee bound by the simplest rules of honesty to exercise the same care and judgment in expending his library funds as he would in expending his own personal funds?"—*New York Librarians*, 1917.

Aids to Trustees

The Trustee and his Library published recently by the A.L.A. answers the kinds of questions which come up in every library at some time or other. It discusses briefly, but to the point, the organization of a library board, the value and the disadvantages of committees, the duties and responsibilities of trustees, the prerogative of the librarian, library finances, salaries, the staff, selection and purchase of books, and many related topics concerning which there is often no definite line drawn as to where the authority of the board ends and that of the librarian begins. The friendly understanding spirit in which the booklet is written makes it an appropriate brochure to place in the hands of any trustee. The A.L.A. reports that many libraries have purchased copies for each board member.—(A.L.A. 45 cents; 5 copies, 30 cents each, 10 copies 25 cents each)

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY HISTORY

Fallsington Library

In the peaceful village of Fallsington, Pennsylvania, near the Southeast corner of Bucks County, on November 26, 1800, the Fallsington Library Company was organized and a constitution adopted by "most of the business and substantial citizens" of that locality.

On December 20, 1802, 35 shareholders drew up Articles of Incorporation which were approved by the Attorney General and Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

The original officers of the Library were Daniel Trimble, Mahlon Kirkbride, John Mott, John Kirkbride, Stephen Comfort, *Directors*. Samuel Palmer, *Secretary*, and Mahlon Milner, *Treasurer*.

The first purchase of books, 138 in number, cost \$209.15 and are still preserved in an alcove of the present building. For many years this infant library was housed in private homes and through the kind offices of the lady of the house books were frequently borrowed, occa-

sionally recorded and generally returned. The records up until 1820 appear to be lost, so we know little of the Library's growth for many years. In 1853 the privilege of the use of library books was given to non-shareholders on payment of one dollar per year, subscriber's dues were \$1.50. In 1875 the charge was raised to \$1.50 for non-shareholders and \$2.00 for subscribers and a large addition made to the number of books.

In 1874 the Library Company reached one of its highwater marks when Isaiah V. Williamson of Philadelphia, but a native son of this community, became its benefactor to the extent of \$5,000, the income of which was to be devoted exclusively to the purchase of books.

Again in 1877 the minutes record that "a communication had been received from Isaiah V. Williamson stating that if the Library Company would select a suitable site and erect a building for a Public Hall and Library he would pay one-half the expense of such building." Such generosity met a ready response, and the sum of \$1,380 was soon ready for the building committee. Some material and considerable labor were donated by the village residents so that good progress was made.

On January 4, 1879, the new building was dedicated and the Library at last had a home of its own which it still enjoys and finds adequate for its needs.

Through all these years the names of those who worked faithfully and untiringly continued to be those of "the most substantial citizens of the community" and no sketch of the Library's history would be complete without recording them:—

Ebenezer Hance
Martha Case
Maria P. Stackhouse
Mary L. Gillingham
George Comfort
William E. Case
Esther Lower
Charles Parons
J. W. Stackhouse

Joseph C. Taylor
 John G. Spencer
 David Satterthwaite
 Samuel C. Moon
 Spencer W. Buckman
 Joseph Brown
 Joseph C. Robbins*
 Elizabeth W. Smith
 Edward C. Williamson
 Charles S. Taylor
 Dr. J. N. Richards
 E. H. Headly
 Tacie E. Gillingham
 Algernon Cadwalader
 Jacob Watson
 Henry W. Comfort
 William H. Moon
 David Sensnig
 Charlotte Reese
 Fred Satterthwaite
 Bertha Richards
 Edith Moon
 Philip Longhurst
 J. Edward Moon

The present board of Directors is as follows:

President—HENRY W. COMFORT
Secretary—MISS LYDIA M. MOON
Treasurer—HENRY T. MOON
Assistant Treasurer—MISS ELIZABETH CHEDESTER
 MRS. LOUISE WHITE WATSON
 MRS. EDGAR T. SNIPES
 HARRY WATSON

A debt of sincere gratitude is due those early librarians who for many years served gratuitously or for a pittance. At one time the yearly stipend was \$20 per year. Their names follow: Harriet Comfort, Charlotte G. Moon, Ebenezer Hance, Eliza Hance, Mary E. Watson. The present librarian is Miss Mary Emma Kirby; Supervising Librarian, Louise White Watson.

In 1902, after 100 years, the Library, having developed from a homeless institution with 138 books and 35 shareholders into an organization with 123 shareholders, 8 renters and 7,172 volumes housed in a modern building, a fitting centenary celebration took place and an endow-

ment fund of \$2,000 was raised, the income to be used for general expenses.

The next, and perhaps the greatest, landmark in our history came in January, 1917, when at the annual meeting the Library was made free to every one. For nearly a year it had been apparent that the reduced number of shareholders were not sufficient to maintain the library under the general increase in expense. There were many doubts expressed at taking such a bold step, but the results have abundantly justified it. The circulation statistics at the close of that year are interesting. The 3,758 volumes circulated in 1916 jumped to 5,524 in 1917, with an increase of 1,786. With this action, the Library Company opened wide a door of opportunity. Co-operation with the consolidated Junior High School directly across the street was our first step which has had gratifying results. Eagerly both teachers and pupils have responded and through the close co-operation of our Supervising Librarian, much has been done toward forming a reading habit among the children.

In 1926 we were again the recipients of a generous gift. Owen Moon, Jr., another native son, gave us \$3,500 in Scott Paper Company stock, the income therefrom to be used for library extension among the children of the community and especially for the purchase of children's books. As a result, the children of three small out-lying schools are enjoying "branch libraries" with a frequent change of books from our shelves, in addition to the throng from the school above mentioned.

Our general expenses are met by a small endowment and voluntary contributions from interested residents, interspersed with an occasional supper or entertainment, which is not an adequate means of support.

Our circulation is now about 7,000 volumes and we believe that 128 years of service has spread an influence on the surrounding community that has been potent and far reaching.

INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARIES

Harrisburg State Hospital

During the year 1928 we circulated 4,801 books and 23,038 magazines, making a total circulation of 27,839 books and magazines. As the greater part of this literature is distributed on Tuesday mornings, when Miss Margaret Wert of the Harrisburg Public Library visits us, we feel that this circulation is most gratifying.

The men especially appreciate the library, for many of the women sew on the wards, while the men are glad to read or play games. Zane Grey, Peter B. Kyne, Rex Beach, E. Phillips Oppenheim and James Oliver Curwood are favorite authors among the men. They are also fond of detective stories, of which we have only a limited supply. Some of the women's favorite authors are Grace L. Hill Lutz, Margaret Pedler, Grace Richmond and Jean Webster. Booth Tarkington, Harold Bell Wright and Joseph C. Lincoln seem to be equally popular with both men and women. Recently we have noticed that our women are asking more often for the adventure stories.

From time to time the Bible Institute Colportage Association of Chicago furnishes us with little pocket Testaments and with some religious literature. The patients are very glad to receive the Testaments and almost always tell their friends on the same wards about them. The demand for Bibles and dictionaries always exceeds our supply.

At present we have 3,909 volumes in the library, many of which are worn and old. But we are trying to mend the old books and make them last as long as possible. We feel that the patients are depending more and more on the library service and hope to increase both our number of books and our circulation this year.

MARGARET M. MILLER,
Social Worker.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

Report for 1928

In the past year sixteen district meetings were held with an average attendance of forty-five.

The Philadelphia district led with three meetings during the year. At Drexel Institute, where it was part of the Library Institute held last February, the topics chosen for discussion were those pertinent to small libraries, and this proved one of the most popular sessions of the week to judge from the crowd which filled the auditorium at Drexel Institute. Miss Julia Wright Merrill, Miss Anna Carroll Moore, Miss Sarah Askew were among the speakers on the program.

The two other meetings of this district were held in Bryn-Mawr in May and Bala-Cynwyd in November. Dr. Godcharles addressed the Bryn-Mawr meeting on the topic "Pennsylvania Authors" and stressed the point that we did not appreciate the good work done in our own state. As the fall meeting was held during children's book week, that topic was especially noted. Mrs. Hess, the chairman of the district, gave a most interesting account of the children's story hour in the Wayne Library.

The Bucks County District has two meetings a year, this year held at Newtown and Hatboro, two libraries that are among the oldest in the state in years of service, and full of historic interest. A very enjoyable part of the programs given were the histories of the libraries visited.

Beaver Valley also has two meetings yearly, and again at Zelienople and Sewickly the histories of the places visited proved of much interest. A paper on what magazines to provide for children caused much discussion, and a paper on work with students in the high schools gave a very clear picture of this type of library service.

The Harrisburg district went to York in the spring, where the visitors were

entertained at the William Penn High School Library which also serves the public. Miss Clinedinst has co-operated with the Lions Club of York in making up packages of books to send to rural schools in York County. The method of sending out such books and their reception awakened much interest and discussion. As a demonstration of the value of county library service this work that the Lions Club is doing should prove most helpful.

The Pittsburgh district meeting at Duquesne was very interesting, an outstanding feature of it being the paper of Dr. Thurlow Frazer, D.D., on the English and American influence on the literature of Japan.

Ebensburg entertained the Juniata district in May, a delightful part of the day's program being the walk through the beautiful grounds of Mr. Charles M. Schwab. Miss Jessie Barclay gave a talk on juvenile books, and another paper worth remembering was that of Dr. John H. Frizzell on "The works and life of a present day writer."

The Allegheny and Conemaugh districts had a joint meeting at Leechburg which is another school-and-public library. Mr. Pentz of DuBois spoke at this meeting of some of the duties of the library trustee from the trustee's standpoint.

At the Erie-McKean district meeting in Kane, Dr. D. D. Zuver discussed the censorship of books in a most able way and from a standpoint not usually taken. A paper on the effect on the children's work in rural schools of a good collection of books brought out many interesting facts, especially as it was the result of actual comparison of schools in Bradford County. The value of books in awakening interest and training the minds of children was shown very clearly in this survey.

In Lansford, where the Lehigh Valley district met, a very interesting selection of new fiction was discussed by Miss Ruth Roehrig.

The West Branch district went to Bucknell this year. One paper read at this meeting and later published in the July number of *Library Notes* was on "Modern Pennsylvania Authors," by Dr. Harry Warfel.

In Mansfield at the Tioga-Potter district meeting we heard a most delightful account of English library methods and management told by Dr. Elizabeth Marshall, who had just returned from a visit there.

Towanda entertained the Lackawanna-North Branch district in May. At this meeting Miss Dorrance of the Wyoming Historical Society spoke of the value of historical records, and the need for libraries to take up the work of collecting historical material of local interest. Miss Margaret Jackson of Kingston gave an excellent talk on the best books of 1927.

It is impossible to give even a list of all the papers and interesting talks and discussions at these meetings. Such as we have listed were given only to show the variety of subjects discussed. We were able to publish one or two in *Library Notes* through the courtesy of those who wrote them. But many of the talks which were so much enjoyed were not written. We feel it is possible to make these district meetings of real value and inspiration to the librarians throughout the state, especially if each librarian feels the responsibility of adding her word of advice or experience to the round table discussions. We all have something we can contribute. Let us give that, so that all may share it.

Schedule for the Spring, 1929.

- February 13—Philadelphia District,
Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.
- April 23—Bucks County District,
Eureka.
- April 26—Harrisburg District,
Shippensburg Teachers College.
- May 7—Beaver Valley District,
Westminister College, New Wilmington.
- May 8—Pittsburg District,
Swissvale.

- May 9—Allegheny-Conemaugh District, Kittanning. unes of Masonic literature, presented by H. C. Trexler.
- May 10—Erie-McKean District, Ardmore \$500 from the Chamber of Commerce.
- May 13-18—A.L.A., Foxburg \$5,000 trust fund in memory of Joseph M. Fox.
- May 21—West Branch District, Northumberland. Hanover Bequest of \$1,000 from Joseph W. Slagle upon death of his wife.
- May 22—Philadelphia District, Wayne. Jenkintown—Abington Library \$2,500 added to endowment by citizens on the 125th birthday of the library.
- May 23—Lackawanna-North Branch District, Kingston. \$10,000 memorial fund for the purchase of books and maintenance.
- May 24—Lehigh Valley District, Allentown. —E. L. M. Lansford Public Library \$100 for books. Gift of Reuben Kutler.

REPORT FOR 1928

New Libraries

- Kingston—Hoyt Library—January 2.
- East Stroudsburg—Community Library—February.
- Townville—Community Library—February 15.
- Portage—Public Library—February 21.
- Eureka—Mary H. Walker Memorial Library of Warrington—March 7.
- Roaring Branch—Public Library—April.
- Willow Grove—Public Library—April 26.
- Glenside—Public Library—June 2.
- Lansdale—Public Library—Aug. 25.
- Cambridge Springs—Public Library—August 25.
- New Kensington—Public Library—September 10.
- Point Pleasant—Public Library—November 15.
- Uniontown—Free Public Library—December 15.
- Lewisburg-Himmelreich Library \$1,000 memorial for Dr. Charles Gundy.
- North East \$300 for a collection of Pennsylvania.
- North East \$5,000 bequest from Mrs. Almeda Loomis.
- Oxford \$1,000 bequest from George Pierce.
- Oxford \$300 bequest from Anna S. Reynolds.
- Port Allegany Gift of a library building in memory of Mr. Samuel Smith.
- Selinsgrove-Susquehanna University Gift of \$25,000 musical library by Mr. J. C. Wilts Devon.
- Tunkhannock—Public Library Gift of 222 books from Mr. Harry J. Bardwell.

New Buildings

- Kingston—Hoyt Library.
- North Wales—Public Library Room in new high school.
- Selinsgrove-Susquehanna University Library Building.
- Wellsville Gift of 600 volumes from Mr. Wm. J. Rose.
- West Chester \$1,000 legacy from Mr. Nathaniel Hickman.

Gifts

- Aliquippa B. F. Jones Memorial building. \$15,000 for books.
- Allentown Masonic Temple The Roberts collection of 2,000 vol-

EDITORIALS

What Pennsylvania Libraries are facing

Like the growing boy whose capacity for food reminds the cook of the bottomless pit; whose wrists and

ankles always seem determined to leave the shelter of sleeves and trouser legs, our libraries seem, suddenly, to have started growing all over again. The epidemic is general. All sorts and sizes and conditions of libraries report the same situation. Here are a few samples, taken at random, from clippings at hand.

The Osterhout Free Library reports a "gain in circulation for 1928 of 55,185 volumes over 1927, the largest yearly increase in its history. . . an idea of the rapidly growing service given by the library to Wilkes-Barre and surrounding communities may be gained from the statistics which show the circulation for 1928 is practically double that of 1920 or a 100 per cent increase in eight years." And this on its fortieth birthday, if you please!

The Brown Library of Williamsport, another library which should be well past its "growing pains" stage, on its twenty-second birthday reported a gain in circulation of 29,335 volumes in the last year.

The Free Library of Pottsville, reports a gain in circulation of 29,973; the Carnegie Library of Connellsville had an increase of 18,611; the much younger but larger Harrisburg Public Library gained over 75,000 all told; the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Bloomsburg Public Library Association heard of a gain of 6,149 in its intrepid institution; sturdy Waynsboro reported a gain of 4,751 in its eighth year; and so on universally down the list of reports with scarcely an exception, to the vigorous "babies" of one year—Brownsville Free Public Library with its circulation of 50,450 the first year and the Hoyt Library of Kingston with its circulation of 101,753. Then the "infant"—the Glenside Public Library has had the audacity to circulate 12,155 volumes, to register 975 of its 2,000 people and gather 3,000 volumes into its collection in seven months!

All of this circulation is just a meas-

uring stick of the demand our public libraries met this past year for increased service. Possibly it is not the libraries which are so suddenly showing such an alarming activity (when resources are considered) as it is that the great Public whom the libraries serve is becoming conscious of its book needs.

And what of this giant—the community's book needs? For as yet, evidently, no one has fathomed its size. Its appetite is insatiable, its demands are insistent, its interest is varied.

There is the school feeding it: first, through the present methods of teaching which require a great variety of books for collateral reading; then, later, come the demands of those who have been so trained in reading habits during their school days.

There is industry constantly changing. Dr. Ellis tells us 25 per cent of those employed today are working in industries which did not exist 20 years ago; some one has had to study to meet and teach these new varieties of work. And change of methods is not confined to industry alone. Business methods have changed as well as everything touching home life and general social contacts and conditions. Constant reading and study is the price the successful person pays today.

Again, all of this stimulates reading for pure pleasure and recreation. Unquestionably, we are seeing enacted around us a great awakening of and growth in intelligence, which, as one librarian expressed it, "is just what we have been working to attain." But now that the giant is awakening, what are we going to do with him, how are we going to feed him with our present resources—which means funds—staff, salary, space, general equipment, book supply? Clearly we must not kill off our librarians and their staffs by overwork, nor must we let down in the quality of service given. The problem is a very real one for each

library, and is growing rapidly. How is it to be met successfully.

The Trustees' Problem

For, after all, the furnishing of the "sinews of war" is the problem for the trustees to solve. The librarian's part is the best possible use of her resources, the trustees' part is furnishing these resources.

And the following quotation from a trustee's report will appeal to many a fellow-trustee who takes his trusteeship seriously.

"The problems that have most worried the board—inadequate income, salaries too low to hold the members of the staff, no direct service to (a distant part of the city), inadequate insurance—have been solved" by an increased tax levy. Yet he goes on to tell how "physically our equipment is inadequate." Books are filling up the basement storage and overflowing to the meeting room and the attic; the overcrowding of the reference space by the increased work with the pupils in the public schools has militated against the adult use—there should be room for both.

Some comparisons made by a librarian not long ago are pertinent and may be taken as typical:

"Since the library opened (20 years before) the school budget has increased 451 per cent; the city budget, 228 per cent; the library budget, 87 per cent." There is something wrong when this is true. Our libraries should have a community support commensurate to the service they render the community.

Possibly Mr. Jefferson, one of the donors of the beautiful library building in Warren, expressed it concisely when he went before Councils with his offer of a new building if adequate support was given. He said:

"What are the obligations of a community to the public library? The community owes not only support but also means to grow not as fast but

faster than the community which can only be met by the library, and the opportunity for the library to meet those needs and enlarge its efficiency, increase more rapidly than the population. This obligation rests upon the community at large and can only be met in one way—taxation." Warren, by the way, now has more than the \$1 per capita support set by the A. L. A. as a standard.

So there is the crux of the matter—"the obligation of the community" to its library. And the secret of our difficulty surely is a lack of understanding by the community of what the library needs are.

Possibly the fault is largely our own, in that we have not properly and forcefully made our wants known. The schools have a compelling law to back that 451 per cent gain, the city has a public opinion created by the practical need. When the streets are dark, or the pavement broken into holes, distressing to the autoist, the city fathers are promptly made aware of the fact, and woe be unto them at the next election if the wrongs are not righted.

But if the library is not equipped to give good service, who ever informs the city fathers of the fact, and demands better service? Why should not the autoist expect the same quality of service from the library as he does from the street commission of the Councils? He does not; possibly he does not know it is right; possibly because he has not yet learned to care enough for such service to ask for it.

So it is the library's problem to make him realize his rights, and to want them sufficiently to see his rights, and that he has them; to teach him what quality of service to expect his library to give him and that he must help furnish it.

The outstanding object is, therefore, education of the community as to what its book needs and its obligations

are. The former is growing rapidly, the subject on the programs of twenty-five regional grange meetings to be held during the winter and spring. The State Library's demonstration book truck will be taken to as many of these meetings as possible.

Libraries *must* meet their great opportunity of becoming, more and more, leaders in the education of individuals; communities *must* understand and meet their obligations by placing libraries on such a plane that they give the service needed.

The outstanding need, therefore, is publicity—all of the time, from all angles—to create an understanding, appreciative public sentiment for libraries. The librarian and her staff cannot do this alone; it is essentially the trustee's problem. How are you meeting it?

A. A. M.

COUNTY AND EXTENSION LIBRARY SERVICE

The Farm Show

A county library exhibit consisting, largely, of the Book Truck full of new books and Miss Matthews to explain it, was given a fine place in the general exhibit hall in Schaffer's Garage. The interest shown in it indicates a growing conception of what a county library is, and an increasing desire for service.

The Grange and the County Library

There is no doubt that the Pennsylvania Grange is becoming very sincerely interested in county libraries. Through the State lecturer, Howard G. Eisaman, East Springfield, the subject was given a place on the daily program of the Grange Lecturer's Conference held in Centre Hall in August. Also in the *Lecturer's Corner* in the *Grange News* the subject has had a splendid presentation.

The subject was also given a place on the program of the State Grange meeting in Williamsport in December. Arrangements are being made to have

COUNTIES

Chester County

The *Pottstown News* reports that a conference was held recently in West Chester to consider a county library system for Chester County. Much interest was shown and a fuller investigation is in progress.

A survey made by the American Association for Adult Education showed in Chester County, there are twelve town libraries; three rural, four consolidated and eleven high school libraries, a total of thirty libraries. The circulation (est.) is 150,000 to 175,000 volumes; there are (est.) 40,000 books all told.

The above figures mean that 50 per cent of the county has no library service at all and the circulation is only one and one-half books per capita per year.

Erie County

The Erie County Pomona Grange and the County Federation of Womens Clubs are working together for a county library.

Fayette County

Last year the Point Marion Public Library working with the Supervising Principal of the Springhill Township schools tried the experiment of circulating boxes of books to the township schools. A report of this was given in the *July Library Notes*.

The plan succeeded so well, this fall ten boxes were added to the fifteen used last year, and many new books replaced old ones. The experiment this year includes the town school.

Franklin County

The Public Library of Waynesboro which is free to surrounding townships and the nearby town of Mont Alto, last year circulated 2,586 books in rural schools.

Laneaster County

The A. Herr Smith Library of Laneaster receives \$1,500 from the county commissioners for extension work. In 1928 there were three branch libraries (Columbia, Elizabethtown and Marietta) helped and twenty-seven deposit stations located in stores, Granges, schools, churches, day nursery and homes.

The circulation was 40,985.

Pike County

The Pike County Library at Milford supplied two summer Boy Scout camps with libraries. Recently it has begun to supply the station at Paupack with books. Instead of securing a new traveling library of fifty books each six months from the State Library, Harrisburg, Paupack now may have twenty-five books each six weeks.

The County Trustee

Professor Felton was the principal speaker on the program. The county library trustee is a subject of intense interest as the county library becomes an established factor in our library development. As chairman of the Tomkins County Library board, Professor Felton brought concrete ideas which he plans to carry out. The library of today must serve ever enlarging areas, he said, and reach persons whose horizons are broadening. It will take its rightful place in the cultural influences of life, on an equal standing with the schools, and in the manner adequately supported. It will work with agencies which are recognized leaders in community and rural life. Cooperative forces in the development of a fruitful, happy life for every family, no matter where located, are beckoning to the library to join their crusade for the enrichment of life in all its phases. This is the outlook which the trustee finds before him.

The trustee of the county library as Professor Felton interprets his work, has five duties to his position; he must stand between the public and the county library, to win the former and vouch for the latter with faith and complete under-

standing of the place of the library in the affairs of the county. The expenditures of the county tax for library service in his express concern. He knows the need for it and the disposition of it. He should be ready to answer all inquiries and to uphold the administrative policy of the organization. The trustee, remembering the paramount purpose of the county library in taking books to the boys and girls on the farms, plans or checks the work of reaching all parts of the county and sees that the best book service is given to the children as well as to adults. Finally, he prepares the way for the county librarian, to make her welcome, to help her with her problems of establishing her work and to make her contacts pleasant and helpful in her work.

NEW YORK LIBRARIES,

November, 1928.

A. A. M.

NEW LIBRARIES OPENED

Cambridge Springs

The Cambridge Spring Library is now open to the public under the direction of Miss Clara Hinkley, librarian.

Landsdale

The Lansdale Public Library was opened to the public August 25, with formal ceremony. It is housed in a building owned by the town which has been adapted to library purposes. The Womens Club donated 400 volumes to the new library as a nucleus to their book collection, which has already increased to several thousand.

Norwood

A library housed and maintained by the American Legion has been reported to us. This library was opened in June, 1926, and is open from seven to nine Tuesday evenings. They circulate from three to four hundred books a week. The total number of volumes in their collection is 3,487.

Point Pleasant

A free library has been started in Point Pleasant in the office of the Point Pleas-

ant Inn. Mrs. Charles V. McLean is president of the Board of Directors, and she and Mrs. M. S. S. Cooper and Mrs. H. P. Kugler are acting librarians. Money for starting the library was raised by an entertainment, and the library was opened on November 15.

Uniontown

The Uniontown Library was opened to the public for use in December. Miss Ocie Anderson is the librarian.—E. L. M.

NEW LIBRARY MOVEMENTS

Shamokin

A Sunbury newspaper notes that the Shamokin Teacher's Association is working to establish a public library. This project has long been discussed there, but no definite action has hitherto been taken. A food sale held November 3 was planned to provide initial funds for their enterprise.

Washingtonville

Mr. DeLong has given Washingtonville the old Presbyterian Church property and \$40,000 to equip it for a community house, including a library.

2,100 volumes are already on the shelves.—E. L. M.

NEWS AND GOSSIP

Allentown

The Allentown Free Library closed on Election Day in order that the building might be used as an election booth. Its reports show an increase of 10,000 volumes in circulation for October over September. No wonder the librarians took a holiday on election day.

Ambridge

This library in its monthly report for October, 1928, stressed their lack of reference books and published a list of books most needed and their prices, with the suggestion that those interested in the library might make a gift of one of the titles.

The circulation statistics show, over a period of fifteen months, an increase of approximately 1,000 books per month.

Columbus

The Columbus Library Association reports that owing to the lack of an available room to house their library, they have had to close it. But, they hope in the near future to reopen it when suitable quarters can be found.

Emleuton

News has come to us that Emleuton, which has had a traveling library for many years, has at last a real public library.

A rich citizen of the town generously built a fine school house, with a room in it planned for a library. It will be used for both students and citizens. It is the plan that later a trained librarian may be secured.

Fallsington

On January 5, the Fallsington Library Association celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the library hall. Members and friends attended dressed in old-fashioned costumes, many of which were quaint and beautiful.

Foxburg

At the Annual Meeting of the Foxburg Library in November, 1928, a gift of \$5,000 was presented to the Trustees by Mrs. Joseph M. Fox. This money will be invested and the income used for the purchase of books, periodicals, upkeep of grounds and for lectures, or entertainments which shall be free to the public.

Harrisburg

The Harrisburg Public Library is circulating one-half million books per year on two-fifths of what is counted the average cost of circulation in this country. This is true not only in Harrisburg, but of many other libraries in Pennsylvania.

Harrisburg—State Legislative Reference Bureau

Miss Irma Watts was elected president of the Drexel Institute Library School Association at its annual meeting in November.

Jersey Shore

Under the direction of Mrs. Mary H. Hogue and the auspices of the library board, a play was staged in Jersey Shore which brought in the sum of \$250 for the

library. Many gifts of books have also been received recently to add to the library collection.

Johnstown

The Bethlehem Steel Company has notified the Trustees of the Johnstown Free Library that it will no longer maintain the library.

A plan for taking the library over by the School Boards of Johnstown and the neighboring boroughs is being discussed.

Kingston

A circulation of 101,735 books for a first year's record will be hard to beat. The Hoyt Library certainly is to be congratulated. Its success comes as the result of careful planning efficiently carried out and financed.

Kittanning

We are sorry to record the death of Mrs. I. T. Campbell, for many years a member of the Board of Directors of the Kittanning Free Library.

Lansford

The Directors of the Public Library have issued notice that the institution must close its doors due to lack of funds. The library last month, November, had a circulation of 3,300 books.

This new library has done exceptional work and proven how necessary a library is to a community. It is to be hoped that some way will be found to keep it open.

McKeesport

Miss McLane's report of the progress of library work there is most gratifying. A room has been decorated and chairs purchased for use of the children during story hour, and the library itself is to be redecorated this summer.

Library funds have been increased, which makes possible better service in every way.

Milford

The Milford Library has been undergoing extensive repairs and has acquired much additional shelving. Incidentally, according to a recent letter, the librarian, Miss Reid, has taken a course in carpentry.

Library economy is no idle term, and librarians have long stressed the value of a knowledge and familiarity of every branch of learning. Miss Reid has demonstrated it practically.

North Wales

The North Wales Library is enjoying its beautiful new quarters in the High School building. The room is on the ground floor, is large, well lighted and admirably adapted to library uses, with an outside entrance. The room is used at intervals by the Civic Club, which paid for finishing the library room and the school auditorium, so it was possible for the library to move into such comfortable quarters.

Pottstown

In view of the fact that the tax for library maintenance failed to carry at the last election, the Board of Directors of the Public Library adopted the resolution that the library be closed on and after January 1, 1929.

A meeting to decide on the disposal of the library property was held on December 6, 1928, at 8 o'clock.

Miss Reutter's resignation has been accepted to be effective December 1, 1928.

Later, the Pottstown Library Board decided to make one more appeal to the people for help. The Chamber of Commerce issued coupons through the local papers, asking for donations for the library.

The response so far has not been what they hoped for.

A report sent us states that a month's campaign for funds netted the library \$1,842. The budget for the year is \$6,500. The drive will be continued.

Quakertown

The Quakertown Free Press had an article recently on the slogan for the New Year—"Make a New Year's resolution and read a book a week." A club has been started in Quakertown with that as its aim. If everyone joins and it proves to be popular, Miss Kinsey will be kept busy this year.

Scranton

The question of Sunday opening has come up before the directors of the Albright Memorial Library and its branches. This will be decided by City Council before the completion of the budget for next year.

Taylor

The Taylor Library drive came to a successful close in October, the four events—card party, tag day, bake sale and dance—being well patronized.

Towanda

The result of the vote in the Towanda section for the library left no doubt in the minds of any one as to how greatly the library is appreciated.

The total vote of the Borough for the tax was 1,290 for and only 319 against it.

Waynesboro

Waynesboro reports a gain in circulation of 5,526 books over the previous year.

An interesting item of the report shows that of this circulation, 2,586 books went to rural schools. Local libraries are trying to do what should be done by concerted effort, and that is to develop rural service which is so badly needed. The county library is the most practical solution of this problem.

West Chester

Miss Margaret G. Townsend has tendered her resignation as president and director of the West Chester Public Library after a service of thirty years.

We wish to add our word of appreciation of her interest in, and faithfulness to the library work of West Chester.

Wilkesbarre

The Osterhout Library is feeling very keenly the loss of one of its directors in the death of Dr. Lewis H. Taylor. A member of the Board since 1889 and for many years its president, his long association with its affairs and his great helpfulness in all its problems makes him one whose place will be hard to fill.

Williamsport

A report from Williamsport tells us that its Newberry branch, opened early in the summer, has been used far beyond expectation. Nearly 8,000 books were loaned in three months.

The library is planning to place a small library of from 12 to 24 books in each fire station and the police headquarters. These deposit stations will certainly be appreciated. The books will be changed monthly.

This library reports an increase in circulation of 34,000 volumes and 1,500 readers.

Wyoming

The report of the Wyoming library's first year as given in the *Wilkes-Barre Record* shows splendid work done. Their circulation was 7,073. The *Record* comments not only on the number for such a small town, but the quality of books loaned, showing the interest of the people in good literature.—E. L. M.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Aids to Librarians

Book List

The Baker and Taylor Company have called our attention to a new publication of theirs which should be of interest to smaller libraries. It is a small folder entitled *Outstanding Books*, published monthly and supplied to libraries on a basis of shared cost. It gives the library which cannot afford to issue a printed list of its own, a medium of local publicity at a nominal cost.

The titles in the list are selected by the librarians of Newark, East Orange, Paterson, Pratt Institute and Springfield Libraries from the *Blue List* issued by the Baker and Taylor Company.

The H. W. Wilson Bibliographies

The J. Herman Bosler Memorial Library, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, offers, free to any Pennsylvania library, for the transportation charges, the *Cumulative Book Index*, *Book Review Digest*, and *Reader's Guide*, 1924-1928.

It wants the *Book Review Digest* for 1913, '14, '16, '17, '18, and '20 and offers \$3.00 per volume.

Parent-Teachers Association Library

The National Association of Parents and Teachers is offering to libraries a reference library for the use of local P.—T. A.'s or those interested in like subjects, with subject outline when requested. The library consists of books, proceedings of the N. C. P. T., pamphlets and the *Child Welfare Magazine*. It may be secured through the Local Unit Publication Service of the N.C.P.T., 1201 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Price \$5.00.

Pennsylvania Birds and Flowers

Two books of special interest to Pennsylvanians have been issued recently.

Dr. George M. Sutton, the ornithologist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission, has published *An introduction to the birds of Pennsylvania*, 169 pages, illustrated, 1928. Mt. Pleasant Press, Harrisburg, \$1.00. This may be purchased from Mrs. L. A. Luttringer, 1724 Herr Street, Harrisburg.

Dr. Ernest M. Gress, botanist with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, has published *The common wild flowers of Pennsylvania*, 121 pages, illustrated, 1928. Times-Tribune Company, Altoona. Bound in stiff paper for pocket use. Price \$.75; two copies \$1.25; 10 copies \$.60 each. This has a splendid index under the common name of the flower. Is intended for identification and for nature study.

The United States Flag

The origin and evolution of the United States Flag by R. C. Ballard Thurston is published by the United States Government Printing Office and may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents for \$.25 per copy.

The pamphlet traces the history of the design of our flag through the Cross of St. Andrew, the Cross of St. George, the flag of Great Britain, and the various Colonial flags as finally merged into our present standard.

WORLD PEACE FOUNDATION

Librarians who are interested in promoting the systematic use of non-fiction books and periodicals will find helpful material in the unique experiment launched by the World Peace Foundation of Boston in co-operation with the Foreign Policy Association of New York. Each Monday night at 7:30, Mr. James G. McDonald, director of the Foreign Policy Association, broadcasts over Station WEAf and associated radio stations throughout the country a talk on foreign affairs. These talks followed Mr. Hoover's "friendship tour" of the Americas; now they are dealing with other portions of the world.

The World Peace Foundation is publishing lists of books and magazine articles on the subjects of these radio talks designed especially for library bulletin boards, and furnished without charge to all libraries upon application.

Mr. McDonald's course in foreign affairs begun over Station WEAf nearly a year ago, has proved one of the most popular educational features in radio broadcasting. The World Peace Foundation, as a part of its customary policy of making the facts of international relations available, now enables the library to direct the attention of interested listeners to outstanding books on the subject of Mr. McDonald's radio talks. In order to insure fresh attention, the color of the bulletins will be varied from week to week. This bulletin service will begin on December 3, and forthcoming issues will be prepared as far in advance as possible, in order to enable librarians to identify and, if desired, to segregate the books listed.

The address of the World Peace Foundation, from whom this service may be obtained without charge, is 40 Mt. Vernon Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

—A. A. M.